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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 005247

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/07/2015

TAGS: PREL PGOV MOPS EAID TU IZ

SUBJECT: TALAFAR SITUATION: TURKS WANT TO SEND HA SEPT. 10

REF: ANKARA 5221

Classified By: Counselor for Political-Military Affairs Timothy A. Bett
s for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶11. (U) This is an action request -- see para 3.

¶12. (C) Recalling his discussion with us the previous day (reftel), MFA MidEast DG Oguz Celikkol contacted polmilcouns Sept. 8 to relay that the Turkish Red Crescent was preparing to send "on Saturday or Sunday" (Sept. 10 or 11) from Ankara three trucks of humanitarian assistance to Talafar. The trucks would be carrying 120 tons of food, 30 tons of water, water purification tablets and up to 500 tents.

Additionally, on Sept. 12, Turkey plans to send two trucks carrying medical supplies. He said instructions to contact Embassy Baghdad and PM Jafari's office had been sent to the Turkish Embassy in Baghdad. He reiterated his earlier request that we specify which route these trucks should travel--i.e., over the Syrian border or through the Habur Gate. MFA was preparing a detailed list of the relief supplies and would provide it to us late Sept. 9.

¶13. (C) Action Request: We request immediate guidance on what to tell the Turks about the preferred route to Talafar (through Habur or through Syria, and then by which road). We would appreciate Embassy Baghdad's assistance in keeping abreast of the ITG's consideration of the Turkish offer, as we have found that communications through the Iraqi Embassy here or, at times, the Turkish Embassy Baghdad can be slow.

MCELDOWNEY